

# **Division of Emergency Medical Services**



## ***2005 Annual Report to the King County Council***

**September 2005**



## **Preface**

I am pleased to present the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Division 2005 Annual Report to the King County Council.

We are in the fourth year of the current 6-year EMS Levy, and this report represents the seventh EMS Annual Report to the King County Council. The Council originally requested this report (King County Ordinance #12849) to enable the EMS Division to update the Council on the status of the operational, program, financial, and planning aspects of the regional EMS system, and to report on the progress of EMS Strategic Initiatives identified in the plan.

Over the years, the report has not only detailed the evolution and progress of the current strategic plan, but also clearly showed the wide range of day-to-day regional activities that are carried out by fire departments, paramedic providers, and the EMS Division staff. In their totality, these activities provide excellent EMS programs and services to the residents of King County.

As usual, it is difficult to select only a few themes to be highlighted here. However, the first and most important initiative reflected in this year's report is the active planning currently underway to prepare for the next EMS levy period. A staged approach will be utilized to develop technical recommendations by EMS stakeholders that will be taken to elected officials in mid-2006. These recommendations will form the core of the next EMS Strategic Plan for the year 2008 and beyond.

Another major initiative worth highlighting is the implementation over the past several years of web-based training for emergency medical technicians and dispatchers. This initiative has now developed into a program that is offered to EMS providers statewide. In addition, ongoing EMS technology initiatives are improving the completeness, accuracy, and applicability of data collection, better reflecting the provision of EMS patient care in this region.

The residents of the greater Seattle-King County region receive excellent EMS service, each and every day. This year's report – as in years past – continues to convey the excellence of that service and the high level of commitment by the people who plan for and deliver it.

The EMS Division 2005 Annual Report is available online through the Public Health - Seattle & King County web site: [www.metrokc.gov/health/ems](http://www.metrokc.gov/health/ems).

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Dorothy Teeter, MHA, Interim Director & Health Officer  
Public Health - Seattle & King County

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